FIFTH DAY—*14th June 1929.*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

MR. B. C. RANGAPPA (Minority Interest).—

Q.—3. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) The number of spinning and manufacturing companies in Bangalore ?

(*b*) How many times there were strikes in each company during the past three years?

(*c*) For how many days the strike continued in each case?

(*d*) What was the reason for such strike? and

(*e*) What steps have been taken to prevent such strikes ?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS—

A.—3. (*a*) Six.

(*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) *Vide* statement (Appendix VII).

(*e*) The question of enacting legislation on the lines of the Trade Unions Act and the Trade Disputes Act is under the consideration of Government.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

May I know if the mill strike was due to the non-payment of bonus or to any other cause?

First Member of Council.—

Government have no more information than what is given in the answer.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

Then, how did Government come to the conclusion that the mill hands were at fault?

First Member of Council.—

No such statement is made.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

Were the respective parties sent for and examined before arriving at that conclusion?

First Member of Council.—

No.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

What are the causes which led to the services of those mill hands who took part in the strike being dispensed with?

First Member of Council.—

The information which has come to the notice of Government is given in the answer.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

How can the real causes be found out?

First Member of Council.—

They would be known to mill employees.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

Are the Government aware that the mill hands struck work as their prayer to close the mills at 4-30 o'clock was turned down? If so, was it not incumbent on the part of Government to interfere in the matter and allay the discontent?

First Member of Council.—

Government cannot interfere in such matters.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa.—

Is there a Labour Commissioner in Mysore?

First Member of Council.—

Yes.

Mr. B. C. Rangappa —

Is it not essential to frame necessary rules and regulations to keep the mills under control?

First Member of Council.—

What control is meant is not clear.

Mr. Rangappa.—

How many labourers were removed from the mills?

First Member of Council.—

Notice is required to answer the question.

Mr. Rangappa.—

Will it be possible for the Government now at least to ascertain and let us know the exact number?

First Member of Council.—

As I have already stated, this requires notice.

Mr. Rangappa.—

Are the Government aware of the atrocities committed by the police in handling the mill hands?

First Member of Council.—

I do not think any such thing has happened.

Mr. Rangappa.—

Did not the Labour Union lodge any such complaint against the police?

First Member of Council.—

I do not know.

Mr. Rangappa.—

Is it not possible for Government to devise measures to make such strikes impossible by investigating into the grievances of the labourers by a committee?

First Member of Council.—

The matter is under consideration.

Mr. Nilgiri Sanjiviah.—

Are not the Government aware that the question of introducing the Trades Union Act was brought up before the Assembly?

First Member of Council.—

Yes.

Mr. Nilgiri Sanjiviah.—

Cannot Government expedite the disposal of the matter?

First Member of Council.—

Will be expedited.

Mr. Nilgiri Sanjiviah.—

There is a lurking fear in the minds of the people that owing to the interference of third parties with the labourers Bangalore might, under the present state of affairs, become a second Bombay. That is why a law is necessary.

First Member of Council.—

It is unlikely that strikes will be completely prevented by any law.

Mr. M. S. Linge Gowda.—

Has it come to the notice of Government that third parties have been preventing labourers from going to work?

First Member of Council.—

Yes, some reports of the kind have come to the notice of Government.

MR. RANGASWAMI IYENGAR, *alias* CHOKKAM IYENGAR (Magadi Taluk).—

Q.—4. Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) The amount of fixed allowance paid to the Amildars in the State every year in lieu of travelling allowance?

(*b*) The amount of travelling allowance and halting allowance that was being paid every year previously?

(*c*) If the fixed allowance exceeds the usual travelling allowance and halting allowance which were being paid before, why should not the original system be revived ?

(*d*) Whether the Amildars tour for the prescribed number of days now?

(*e*) If not, how many Amildars have not been paid the fixed allowance for the days they did not tour?

(*f*) Whether each Amildar visited each village in his taluk once in a year and redressed the grievances of the raiyats ? and

(*g*) Whether the Government have examined all these points?